

NEWS RELEASE

USDA Forest Service
Santa Fe National Forest



For Immediate Release

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Forest plans Southwest Barbero prescribed burn, Pecos/Las Vegas District

(SANTA FE, NM)— A 144 acre prescribed burn is planned on the Santa Fe National Forest Pecos/Las Vegas Ranger District from October 12 to October 15.

The name of the project is the Southwest Barbero prescribed burn, which is a continuation of the Southwest Barbero prescribed burn that was conducted in March. The treatment is expected to take place 12 miles south of Glorietta Mesa and Rowe Mesa near Forest Road 124, and 12 miles south of the town of Pecos. Treatment will be by hand ignitions. The purpose of the prescribed burn will be to reduce the risk of future high intensity fire and restore forest health.

Smoke may settle in the areas of San Jose and Ribera in the evenings, and is expected to disperse in the mornings. Smoke may also be visible from Pecos, Las Vegas and from I-25, as well as from Highway 4, Highway 126, and Highway 550.

Smoke from prescribed fire can be a nuisance to some people and a health concern for others, such as children, pregnant women, senior citizens, and those suffering from allergies, asthma, chemical sensitivities, or other heart or lung diseases. To reduce exposure to smoke, stay indoors as much as possible with windows, doors and vents closed. Avoid or limit physical activities outdoors.

In the evenings, smoke settles into low lying areas, including drainages; however, lifts by mid-morning when the sun rises. Residents living in such low-lying areas may be most affected. Information on health impacts from smoke can be found by calling the New Mexico Department of Health at 1-888-878-8992, or visit: http://www.nmenv.state.nm.us/aqb/documents/Health_Effects_Smoke_06152010.pdf

For more information on the planned prescribed burn, call the Pecos Ranger Station at (505) 757-6121. Also, follow us on Twitter: SantaFeNF@SantafeNF

